Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Mabel Elizabeth Benson was born on September 28, 1903, to Walter and Ninette (Fletcher) Benson at Hurley, South Dakota, and we are richer because Mabel lives among us; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Mabel attended rural school in Turner County and graduated from Hurley High School in 1922, attended Schuyler Beauty School in 1933, at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and then worked in beauty shops in Lennox and Sioux Falls before owning and operating Mabel's Beauty Shop in the Ortman Hotel in Canistota; and,

Whereas, Mabel married J. Nordahl Elster on March 14, 1944, and they farmed near Harrisburg and Crooks until retirement, and Mabel moved to Sioux Falls in 1979, after Nordahl passed away in 1978; and,

Whereas, Mabel is a member of the West Nidaros Lutheran Church and was active in a church circle until her move to the Bethany Lutheran Home in 1999, where she still resides; and,

Whereas, Mabel will observe her 100th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as her friends and relatives gather on September 20, 2003, to honor her and celebrate her life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a woman who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 28, 2003, as

MABEL ELSTER DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all her friends and relatives in wishing her a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State